



**GEOSCIENCE
INFORMATION
SOCIETY**

newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Lura Joseph

It has been a pleasure to serve as your president this past year. The time has flown by. The interaction with Executive Board members, committee chairs, and members, as well as editing the Proceedings has kept me busy, but the experience has been positive and educational. Another plus was the opportunity to attend the GSA Allied and Associated Societies meeting in Denver and the AGI meeting in Reston, and the experience of getting to know leaders of other societies and their concerns. Some issues overlapped with those facing GISIS, and others related to the areas of publishing and geological information. I strongly encourage GISIS members to consider serving as VP/President, Secretary, or Treasurer. These are rewarding experiences that I have found contribute to professional and personal growth.

In the annual report I will include some suggestions for consideration at the Executive Board Meeting and the Business Meeting. I hope there will be a record turn-out at the annual meeting in Denver. Our society is only as vital as the involvement of our members, and the annual meeting with GSA is a great opportunity for networking, discussing issues of mutual interest, and rekindling enthusiasm. See you in Denver! Don't forget to sign up for the field trip.

VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Linda Musser

Annual meeting update:

The Web page for the GISIS annual meeting is live at <http://www.libraries.psu.edu/emsl/GSIS2004.html>. The GISIS meeting schedule is available at the site as are links to registration, lodging, Denver sights, and a roomies bulletin board. If you are interested in rooming with someone while in Denver, please let me know and I'll put that information on the bulletin board.

The standard registration deadline is September 30. Be sure you get your registration sent by that date. Don't forget to register for the Awards luncheon on Monday (one version of the GSA registration form incorrectly listed the date). The luncheon is on Monday. Seating is limited so please register in advance.

Seats on the field trip bus are filling fast so please let me know if you want to join us. The trip cost will likely drop a little so hold all checks until Denver.

Finally, sports fans take note - the Denver Broncos have a home game Sunday against Houston. Kickoff time is 2:15.

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GSIS members are encouraged to contribute materials for publication. Material for the December, 2004 issue should be received no later than November 26, 2004. If possible, please send materials by e-mail to cjm@thurston.com

**GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY
2004 ANNUAL MEETING, DENVER, COLORADO
SCHEDULE**

Saturday, November 6

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. GSA Presidential Address and Awards Ceremony - *Hyatt - Grand Ballroom*

Sunday, November 7

9:00 - Noon GSIS Executive Board Meeting, *Hyatt - Longs Peak*

1:30 - 5:30 p.m. GSIS Poster sessions, *Colorado Convention Center*

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. GSIS E-Resources Forum, *Hyatt - Grays Peak*

5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Exhibits Opening and Welcoming Party - *Exhibit Halls A and B Colorado Convention Center*

Monday, November 8

8:00 - Noon CHRONOS I (Topical session on Geoinformatics) - *Ballroom 4 Colorado Convention Center*

12:15 - 1:30 p.m. GSIS Luncheon and Awards, *Hyatt - Grays Peak*

1:30 - 5:30 p.m. CHRONOS II (Topical session on Geoinformatics) - *Ballroom 4 Colorado Convention Center*

3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Preservation Forum, *Hyatt - Mount Evans A/B*

5:00 - ? Alumni receptions

Tuesday, November 9

8:00 a.m. - Noon Geoinformatics (Pardee session) - *Ballroom 2+3 Colorado Convention Center*

10:00 - Noon GSIS Collection Development Forum, *Hyatt - Mount Elbert*

2:30 - 5:30 p.m. GSIS Business Meeting, *Hyatt - Mount Elbert*

6:00 - 9:00 p.m. GSIS reception and silent auction, *Hyatt - Longs Peak*

Wednesday, November 10

8:00 - 10:00 a.m. GSIS technical papers session - *Room 605 Colorado Convention Center*

10:00 - Noon *Open time*

1:30 - 3:30 p.m. GSIS Professional Issues Forum, *Hyatt - Mount Elbert*

3:30 - 5:30 p.m. GSIS Executive Board meeting, *Hyatt - Boardroom*

Thursday, November 11 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

Field trip to the National Center for Atmospheric Research's Mesa lab.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Officers

President

The GSIS officers handled the business of the society via e-mail during the year. As President, I represented GSIS by attending the Geological Society of America Allied and Associated Societies Meeting (February 28-29, 2004, Boulder, CO), and the American Geological Institute Leadership Forum held at United States Geological Survey headquarters (May 6-7, 2004, Reston, VA). Editing of the Proceedings is finished, and the manuscript has been mailed to the Publications Manager.

In continuation of the review of GSIS activities begun during Lisa Dunn's term of office last year, I would like to address several issues.

First, the Business Plan, authored by Lisa Dunn and included in the June 2004 Newsletter, concluded that a raise in membership dues really is necessary. The last dues increase was in 1994. While we have managed to stay within budget the last few years, it has only been with extreme care

and by severely curtailing expenses. There are few extra funds for supporting events such as the approaching Geo-Info Conference, or for renting AV equipment or providing refreshments for the annual meeting. I encourage GSIS members to review the business plan in the June Newsletter and come prepared to discuss the issues at the annual business meeting. If you need a copy of the plan, let me know.

Second, GSIS membership has been slowly declining. I suggest a vigorous attempt at increasing membership via a membership drive. This would entail the efforts of all members, but would be directed by the Membership Committee. Current members could help identify librarians responsible for geology collections, but not currently GSIS members, and could help contact those individuals. Library schools could also be contacted. Money would need to be budgeted for brochures and postage.

Third, it had been increasingly difficult to find members willing to serve on committees, and especially difficult to

fill chair vacancies. In recent years committees have become inactive, and at least one has been dissolved. This year, only one person was willing to run for Vice President. We need some discussion regarding the causes and recommended remedies for these situations.

Fourth, we need to discuss the issue of copyright for our Proceedings.

Fifth, the society needs to discuss our involvement in the next GeoInfo.

Respectfully submitted,
Lura E. Joseph, President

Vice President

The work of the VP is primarily focused on organizing the annual meeting but there are other duties. As a member of GSA's Joint Technical Programming Committee, I assisted in reviewing abstract submissions and served as overseer in the preparation of various other topical sessions. The proposed topical on global issues in geoscience information was eliminated in the competition for space and time, however, the topic of geoinformatics clearly resonated with organizers. Not only are there several geoinformatics sessions but the topic is featured as one of the half-day Pardee sessions.

As usual, GSA instituted some changes this year that affected our members. One change relates to how they distribute registration materials to affiliated society members. GSA will no longer distribute printed copies of registration materials (i.e., *GSA Today*) to affiliated society members but prefers that this information be shared electronically. GSIS members are now being offered online access to *GSA Today* electronically, available at <http://www.gsjournals.org/gsonline/?request=index-html>. Members can also sign up to receive *GSA Connection*, a monthly e-newsletter, at <http://rock.geosociety.org/Enews/>.

In an effort to improve our funding and sponsorship at the annual meeting, I contacted various geoscience publishers, with little success to date. In addition to seeking sponsorship, publishers of Ansari Award winning books were asked to consider donating a display copy of the work, or promotional copy for display at our booth. Several publishers responded by sending a copy of their book for use at the booth.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Musser, Vice President

Secretary

As of September 24, the Society has 170 Members. Of these, 126 are personal members (11 of them new this year), 11 are retired, 3 are students and 5 are sustaining members (who generously give \$100). The roster is completed by 25 institutional members. 27 members have not yet renewed for 2004. Of those non-renewals, two (Zelda Colodner and Donna Hanson) have retired; eight others were new members last year. Among the others are longtime members who I think have just misplaced their emailed renewal notices. Whatever, I hope that the number of non-renewals will

shrink considerably between now and our Denver meeting. I sent out a final renewal notice earlier this week.

145 of our members are from the U.S., 8 are from Canada; the remaining 17 are from a total of 10 other countries.

Minutes were recorded at the 2003 Executive Board and Business Meetings, and published in the GSIS Newsletter in February (issue 206).

Respectfully submitted,
Jim O'Donnell, Secretary

Appointed Officers

Achivist

A number of files were received this year. These have been sorted and are awaiting transfer to the University of Illinois Archives where the complete Geoscience Information Society archives are housed.

A new archivist is needed because I am retiring at the end of this year. Volunteers would be appreciated!

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Krick, Archivist

Geonet Listserv Editor

The Geonet Listserv subscriptions dropped by 25 subscriptions over the last year. The chart below compares 2004 to 2003:

	2004	%	2003	%
.edu	137	52%	147	51%
.gov	26	10%	24	10%
foreign gov.	4	2%		
.com and .net	25	10%	30	12%
.org	6	2%	8	3%
foreign	55	21%	71	21%
foreign acad.	4	2%	3	
state (U.S.)	4	2%	4	3%
TOTALS	262	100%	287	100%

The largest drop was in "foreign" subscriptions. The ".edu" subscriptions from the U.S decreased by ten from last year.

This year, security was breached at least twice, a first for this listserv. Please remember to **update your virus-scanning software** on a regular basis, as it may happen again. I do want to apologize for any problems this may have caused. If a message looks suspicious, it is better to delete it than take a chance. Thanks to those who were alert and warned the rest of us before we opened a virus-laden message!!

Also, we are getting so many spams, and I am hitting delete so often, it is possible I may inadvertently delete a valid message. If this is the case, please send it directly to me at carolyn@purdue.edu, and I will submit your message.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn J. Laffoon, GeoNet Listserv Editor

Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter continues to be an important medium to communicate Society news and business to the membership and to record the Society's activities. Since the last annual report, six issues that been prepared and transmitted to GISIS members and Newsletter subscribers.

We thank all those who contributed materials to the issues.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie J. Manson, Newsletter Editor

Representatives

AGI Member Society Council

The Council meets biannually at the annual meetings of the Geological Society of America and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. The fall meeting was held at the GSA meeting in Seattle and spring meeting was held at the AAPG meeting in Salt Lake City.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie J. Manson, GISIS Representative

Cartographic Users Advisory Council

The Cartographic Users Advisory Council met May 6 - 7, 2004 at the U.S. Census Bureau in Suitland, Maryland. The Business Meeting was held May 6, while the Agency Reports were given May 7. At the Business Meeting, the Council heard reports from members concerning activities during the year. These included reports on the activity of the Homeland Security Working Group, the National Research Council's study on Licensing of Geographic Data and Services, the CUAC Web site, and fugitive cartographic resources.

The Council also discussed ongoing areas of concern, including Cooperative Research and Development Agreements, the CUAC Archives and the budget, which has not been supplemented by donations from member organizations for a number of years. Member organizations are being asked to provide \$100 for Council Activities.

The Council also discussed the possibility of holding another conference on changes that are occurring in cartographic information, given the increase in the number of digital products that are being released and the changes that are occurring in the Federal Depository Library Program. The conference took a big leap forward when John Hebert, from the Library of Congress Geography and Map Division, offered to host the meeting at the Library of Congress May 12-13, 2005. More information on the meeting will be distributed soon.

Agency representatives gave their reports May 7, 2004. Among the agencies reporting were the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Library of Congress, Census Bureau, Bureau of Transportation Statistics of the U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Forest Service, and the Government Printing Office. The minutes of the agency reports have been sent to Geonet and were published in the August GISIS Newsletter. Among the topics of particular concern to CUAC members were agency activities regarding data preservation and long-term access to digital content, both spatial data and digital publications.

Since the meeting, members have continued to work on planning a meeting on changes in cartographic information, tentatively titled Map Libraries in Transition II. The meeting will be held at the Library of Congress May 12-13, 2005.

Members who are working with maps and spatial data will want to think about attending.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Zellmer and Clara McLeod, GISIS representatives

Committees

Best Paper

This year's selection process by the GISIS Best Paper Award Committee resulted in a tie for Best Paper. The award goes jointly to:

Musser, L. R., 2003, What geoscientists cite--A comparative survey. *In* Dunn, L. G., editor, *New heights in geoscience information--Access and technology: Geoscience Information Society Proceedings*, vol 33, p. 5-10.

Nickum, Lisa, 2003, Federal government information in the 21st century--Public access issues *In* Dunn, L. G., editor, *New heights in geoscience information--Access and technology: Geoscience Information Society Proceedings*, vol 33, p. 35-44.

The two winners were notified on August 12. Both indicated that they will attend the award luncheon at the GISIS Annual Meeting, and that they will provide biographical information to be used in their introductions at the luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,
Renee Davis, Chair

Best Website Award

The Best Website Award Committee is happy to announce the winner of the 2004 Best Website Award. Dr. John Flynn, MacArthur Curator and Chair of the Department of Geology, The Field Museum, will be accepting the award for: "American Museum of Natural History, Division of Paleontology," at <http://paleo.amnh.org/fossil/FRC>. frontdoor Dr. Flynn is planning to attend the GISIS Awards Luncheon to accept the award on behalf of Dr. Mark A. Norell, Curator and Chairman of Division, and Dr. Michael J. Novacek, Curator and Provost.

Congratulations to the winner, and many thanks to the committee members, Shaun Hardy, Jim O'Donnell, and Janice Sorensen, for all their hard work and suggestions in

selecting the 2004 Best Website winner.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn J. Laffoon, Chair

Collection Development Issues

The Committee will host the Collection Development Issues Forum on Tuesday November 9, from 10 to noon at Mount Elbert Room at the Hyatt Regency in Denver. The forum will include a brief status of geoscience serial prices, a presentation on Geoscience World which focuses on the journal content, and a discussion of collection assessment practices.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael M. Noga, Chair

Exhibit Committee

The GISIS booth at GSA in Denver this year will be #929. The theme is Digitization in the Geosciences, highlighting the variety of digitization projects. Please send your suggestions for digitization projects to me by writing a short paragraph and including a photograph or web site and we will feature them in the booth. They can be finished projects or projects in process. We are also planning a handout of the web sites we find. We will also present announcements of the recipients of our annual awards. Please e-mail ideas and resources to Dona Dirlam at ddirlam@gia.edu We will again be looking for volunteers to staff the booth during the conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Dona Dirlam, Chair

GeoRef Users Committee

Since the demise of the Digital Committee, and at the suggestion of several people, the Georef Users Committee has decided to broaden the scope of the annual GeoRef Forum to include discussion of all electronic resources. Accordingly, planning for the annual forum includes not only an update on GeoRef from Sharon and Shaun, but also a discussion of GeoscienceWorld, a demonstration of the new MSA Crystal Structures Database with Bob Downs, and possibly some updates from AGU.

The forum is scheduled for Sunday, Nov 7th from 3 to 5 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Baclawski, Interim Chair

International Initiatives Committee

Fellowship Program:

To date, the committee has facilitated the visit of two International Fellows. At this time, we have no plan to bring in a fellow this year, but we want to concentrate on raising enough money to do so in the future.

We agree that it is important to continue with the International Fellowship program, and to that end, continue to

search for funding to support our next fellow. We estimate the expense of bringing a fellow to the United States, providing living expenses, registration for the GSA/GSIS annual meeting, etc. to be about \$6000. At this time, none of the members has been able to find willing donors for more substantial funding for the fellowship program.

We also agree that we are willing to have the fellow or the fellow's institution pay a portion of the expense (airline ticket for example) if that will make a difference in being able to bring in a fellow.

We have had a difficult time finding sources for funding, and have instituted the Silent Auction held at the annual meeting for this purpose (raising approximately \$600 each year during the two years of its existence). The GSIS IIC 2004 Silent Auction will be held in Denver during the GSIS reception, Tuesday November 9, 6 – 9 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency.

GeoInfo VII:

Independencia Iselidh informed us that the Geological Survey of Norway Library, located in Trondheim, has expressed its willingness to host GEOINFO VII in 2006. Grete Henriksen, head librarian, agreed to host the meeting, on the condition there is very active support from our committee. Grete has attended two GeoInfo meetings, in Prague and Washington, DC.

Barbara Haner has been appointed by the GSIS President as liaison to the GeoInfoVII (2006) meeting coordinators. She is currently in communication with Grete in Norway and with Ian Jackson in the UK who has also offered support. Barbara supplied Grete with a list of library meetings taking place in the U.S. during summer and fall 2006 in hopes of circumventing overlaps. She also prepared information about the size and attendance at past meetings for Grete to use in planning.

Tentatively the meeting is to be held in late spring, 2006; when the dates are finalized, they will be announced to the board, in the Newsletter, and on Geonet. The committee can then begin its work to support the meeting and to encourage attendance and participation by GSIS members.

A letter of support has been sent to Grete from the GSIS President.

Barbara Haner compiled an historical table of GeoInfo meetings (below).

The committee has been charged with supervision of planning, and with regular reporting to the Executive Board. The issue of GSIS funding and other support for the meeting will be raised during the first Executive Board Meeting at the 2004 Annual meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dena Hanson (Chair), Independencia Isledh, Pauline MacDonald, Chip Green, Claren Kidd, Dorothy McGarry, Julie Hallmark, Joanne Lerud-Heck, Julia Triplehorn, Barbara Haner, and Sharon Tahirkheli

Date	Location	Organizer	Proceedings	Associated Events
1978	London, Royal Institute for Science and Technology	GIG, GIS, AGIA, EASE, AESE Anthony (Tony) Harvey	Harvey, A. P.; Diment, J. A., editors, 1979, Geoscience information--A state-of-the-art review; proceedings of the first International Conference on Geological Information: Broad Oak Press, 287 p.	
1982	Golden, Colorado School of Mines	GIS, GIG, International Union of Geological Sciences, Assoc. Chief Librarians of National Geological Surveys and AGID	Kidd, C. M., editor, 1982, Second International Conference on Geological Information --Proceedings: Oklahoma Geological Survey Special Publication 82-4, 427 p.	
1986	Adelaide, Australia Australian Mineral Foundation	AGIA, AMF, BMRGG + 16 sponsors including, GIS, GIG	Shelley, E. P., editor, Proceedings of the 3 rd International Conference on Geoscience Information: Australian Mineral Foundation, 2 v.	
1990 June	Ottawa	Canadian Geological Survey, GIS, David Reade	Reade, David, editor, 1990, Proceedings of the 4 th International Conference on Geoscience Information: Geological Survey of Canada Open File Report 2315, 1 v.	Field Trip Canadian Shield + others Small Mining Conference
20-23 June 1994	Prague	Czech Geological Survey Geofond of the Czech Republic, GIS Jiri Hruska	Hruska, Jiri, editor, 1995, Proceedings of the 5 th International Conference on Geoscience Information: Geoscience Information Society, 2 v.	Field trip Kutna Hora + 3 additional ones
10-14 Sept. 1998	Washington D.C. AESE/CBE/EASE/ GIS	Claren Kidd - Program Committee Barbara DeFelice - Program Committee Barbara Haner - Organizing Committee	Manson, C. J., editor, 1999, Science editing and information management--Proceedings of the second international AESE/CBE/EASE joint meeting, sixth international conference on Geoscience information, and thirty-second annual meeting, Association of Earth Science Editors: Geoscience Information Society, 117 p.	Field trip - (4) WAML Sep 16-18 Library of Congress

GeoRef Advisory Committee

The GeoRef Advisory Committee met at AGI headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia on June 4, 2004. The Committee assists AGI Information Systems Director Sharon Tahirkheli by providing recommendations on GeoRef and other AGI databases, and developing ideas for information products and services for the geoscience community. The Committee consists of: Harvey Cohen, Charlotte Derksen (Chair), Shaun Hardy, Suzanne Larsen, John Steinmetz, and Dennis Trombatore.

Pricing and distribution. AGI has added tiers to its non-profit/government price category for GeoRef, so there is now consistency (3 tiers) across all subscriber categories. All tiers are based on the number of geoscience users at an institution. (The actual subscription price that the institution pays depends on which database vendor they use; AGI does not sell GeoRef directly to subscribers.) The possibility of offering individual/personal subscriptions was briefly discussed, but past experience has shown there is little demand for such. Subscriptions to the print *Bibliography and Index of Geology* continue to dwindle. The Committee reviewed the list of institutions that subscribe to the *Bibliography* but

not GeoRef, and discussed options for replacing the print product with a less-costly CD-ROM version or providing electronic access another way. The print-only subscribers will be polled for feedback.

GeoScienceWorld. Subscribers to GSW (planned for launch in early 2005) will be able to choose it with or without GeoRef bundled. As long as subscribers to GSW have a subscription to GeoRef through any vendor they will be able to search GSW's own full-text content, the entire GeoRef database, or both concurrently. GSW's "native" search engine will be based on GeoRef subject categories. Enhanced ways of searching will include a "topic map" to browse subjects graphically and the ability to find related articles through citation mapping. Direct exporting of search results to reference management software such as EndNote will be supported, but GeoRef and GSW staff are still working on field mapping problems. Publisher-supplied data will be loaded directly into GeoRef without indexing (instead of going into GeoRef Previews), but specially flagged to indicate that the records are preliminary. Database corrections will be loaded weekly.

Abstract coverage. Sharon T. reviewed various options that have been considered to speed processing time for meeting abstracts. Abstracts account for a substantial portion of GeoRef records (25% in 2003). A large backlog exists. Sharon reported that machine-aided indexing is prone to errors and not cost-effective. The Committee advocated foregoing indexing (descriptors) of abstract records altogether as a time-saving measure, but Sharon pointed out that some of GeoRef's contractual obligations won't permit this, and further, staff are reluctant to degrade the quality of the database. Agreement was finally reached on a plan to add records for meeting abstracts to the regular (main) GeoRef database without indexing, but with a note indicated that indexing will come later—similar to the treatment of publisher-supplied data. The possibility of eventually folding the GeoRef Preview and GeoRef In Process databases into the main file will be explored further.

Dissertations. The Committee reversed its previous recommendation that GeoRef include *all* dissertations from geoscience departments, and now advocates continuing GeoRef's long-standing practice of including only those dissertations that fall within GeoRef's subject scope. (Many USGS publications are biological in nature and are similarly not picked up by GeoRef.) Efforts to identify dissertations in the earth sciences from non-geoscience departments using *Dissertation Abstracts* will continue. The practice of electronic-only submission of dissertations (i.e., no print deposit requirement) at some universities is making comprehensive GeoRef coverage a more elusive goal. The Committee reviewed and revised the text of the letter which GeoRef uses to request thesis information from universities; the letter is sent to department offices, graduate coordinators, and librarians.

State Survey publications. Efforts are underway to systematically review online publications catalogs from state surveys to determine completeness of GeoRef coverage. Fifteen states have been completed to date. Publications missing from the database are being listed, and the surveys contacted for assistance in tracking down copies.

GeoRef Newsletter. Sharon reported that an electronic newsletter for GeoRef users, to be distributed via Geonet, is still under consideration; no starting date has yet been set.

Vendor enhancements. OCLC and CSA are both enabling DOIs in GeoRef and loading corrections this year. OCLC now has the ability to load corrections continuously. (A complete list of GeoRef providers is available at www.agiweb.org/georef/index.html.)

Other AGI-produced databases. The *Groundwater and Soil Contamination Database* is now available on the web by subscription. A grant proposal to renew the *Cold Regions Bibliography Project* for another 5-year term has been submitted, including plans for a GIS interface; support is provided by NSF and the U.S. Army. Its two component online databases, *Antarctic Bibliography* and *Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology*, are free to all via the AGI web site. AGI's contract to maintain the *USGS Publications Database* has been extended for one year. The database

(pubs.usgs.gov) has been totally redesigned and now uses the same search engine as GeoRef Preview; it is no longer associated with Community of Science. *AusGeoRef*, a GeoRef subset consisting of around 120,000 records, is due to be released later this year. The focus of the database is on Australian publications and work on Australian geology published elsewhere. Through collaboration with Geoscience Australia, GeoRef expects to double the number of Australian references covered each year. *AusGeoRef* will be served directly through the AGI web site. Pricing is not yet finalized.

Multilingual Thesaurus. The most recent print edition of the IUGS-initiated *Multilingual Thesaurus of Geosciences* was issued in 1995. Subsequent modifications by EuroGeoSurveys resulted in an online version, but it lacks the hierarchical structure of the original. GeoRef and several European geological survey organizations are now exploring the possibility of a new web-based product. The *Multilingual Thesaurus* has roughly half the number of terms in the *GeoRef Thesaurus*.

GeoRef Thesaurus. The 10th edition of the *GeoRef Thesaurus* will be published this fall using a print-on-demand approach. The Committee strongly endorsed a proposal to make the new *Thesaurus* free for viewing on the GeoRef web site – but recognized that watermarks or other security measures may be needed to guarantee the integrity of the digital version. The ability to seamlessly click through *Thesaurus* terms when submitting GSA abstracts online was seen as a goal to strive for. Some concerns were voiced about the currency of online *Thesaurus* versions provided by GeoRef vendors; some have not reloaded the most recent version, though they have reloaded the database itself.

DLESE. Sharon recapped the status of AGI's cooperative agreement with the Digital Library for Earth Systems Education, whereby GeoRef staff provide cataloging metadata for selected sites in the National Science Digital Library (NSDL) and work on collaborative collection development. DLESE is getting on the order of 30,000 searches per month. Sharon now serves on the DLESE Management Council.

If any members have concerns, questions, or suggestions regarding GeoRef, please feel free to contact me (hardy@dtm.ciw.edu). The next Advisory Committee meeting will be in Denver at the start of GSA. I will also be at the GIS E-Resources Forum on November 7 and look forward to getting your comments and ideas there.

Respectfully submitted,
Shaun J. Hardy, GIS Representative

Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work

The GIS Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Committee nominated 24 reference works including:

Astronomy Encyclopedia
Atlas of the Pacific Northwest (9th Edition)
The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Meteorites
Dictionary of Minor Planet Names
Dinosaurs: the Encyclopedia: Supplement 3

The Oryx Resource Guide to El Nino and La Nina
Encyclopedia of Atmospheric Sciences
Encyclopedia of Geomorphology
*Encyclopedia of Global Change: Environment Change
and Human Society*
Encyclopedia of Ocean Sciences
Encyclopedia of Prehistory
Encyclopedia of Sediments and Sedimentary Rocks
Encyclopedia of Soil Science
Geological Atlas of China
Handbook of Mineralogy
Handbook of Rock Analysis
*International Handbook of Earthquake and
Engineering Seismology*
Manual of Geospatial Science and Technology
Manual of Mineral Science
Minerals of the World
Paleolimnology
Salton Sea Atlas
Smithsonian Atlas of the Amazon
Treatise on Geochemistry.

Committee Members who nominated and evaluated these titles were: Lisa Fish (Columbia University), John Hunter (Rice University), Ed Lener (Virginia Tech), April Love (University of California, Irvine), Linda Newman (University of Nevada, Reno), Michael Noga (MIT), Sally Scott (University of Wyoming), Charles "Wil" Weston (University of New Orleans), Thomas Zogg (University of Minnesota, Duluth), Janice Norris, Chair, Pennsylvania State University, DuBois.

The Committee selected the *Treatise on Geochemistry*, edited by H. D. Holland and K. K. Turekian and published by Elsevier, as the recipient of the 2004 Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Norris, Chair

Membership Committee

The committee members are Karen Bohm, Lisa Fish, Anne Graham, John Hunter, Miriam Kennard, Sally Scott, Lee Walking, Elizabeth Wallace, Patricia Yokum, and Connie Manson, Chair.

The membership brochure has been revised and copies will be available at the annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie J. Manson, Chair

Nominating Committee

For the 2003-2004 operating year, the Nominating Committee identified candidates for the positions of Vice-President/President Elect and Secretary, accepted nominations for these positions, and gathered information about potential candidates for future elections.

The Committee distributed, collected and tallied ballots from the membership and presented the GSIS Executive

Board with the results: for Vice-President/President Elect: Adonna Fleming; for Secretary: Angela Gooden.

I would like to thank the Nominating Committee members, the Executive Board, and the membership for their support and participation.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Dunn, Chair

Preservation Committee

Planning is continuing for the annual Preservation Forum scheduled for Tuesday, November 9th, from 3:30 to 5:30. Several speakers are tentatively scheduled for updates on various projects and programs, including Nancy Blair on the USGS program to digitize the USGS Monographs.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Baclawski, Chair

Task Force on Citation of Geoscience Data

During this second and final year, the Task Force concentrated its efforts to raise awareness of this issue by publicizing the resources on our Web site (<http://www.geoinfo.org/TFGeosciData.htm>). An article about the work of the Task Force appeared in the journal *Science Editor*, the Association of American State Geologists was contacted, and editors of 157 geoscience journals were sent information about the issue.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Musser, Chair

Union List of Field Trip Guidebooks

The Committee membership consists of Charlotte Derksen, Angela Gooden, Ann Hubble, Claren Kidd, Dana Mastroianni, Dorothy McGarry, Carol Messick, John Mulvihill, Jim O'Donnell, Chestalene Pintozzi, Deborah Rhue, Lin Rose, and Louise Zipp (Chair).

The Committee was enlarged by six members late in the fall of 2003 to take on the evaluation of coverage by region that was recommended by AGI. We awaited AGI's completion of technical work on display characteristics in the database to move ahead with this project. Sharon Tahirkheli recently indicated that improved serials searching should obviate the need for a regional approach. I have asked Sharon for clarification. There will be a Committee meeting at GSA in Denver, where I hope we can reach a better understanding of this Committee's role.

Before Christmas, four members assisted AGI by checking database holdings on some older guidebook surrogates that had been forwarded to Sharon Tahirkheli.

The waiting list continues to be hosted by the University of Illinois. The waiting list was to have been moved to SUNY Geneseo this past summer, but the IT support at Geneseo has not been available yet.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise S. Zipp, Chair

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Earth Sciences Librarian and Bibliographer, Branner Earth Sciences Library and Map Collections, The Stanford University Libraries/Academic Information Resources Stanford, California

The Stanford University Libraries seek an energetic, intellectually engaged subject specialist with training in an Earth Sciences discipline to develop and manage collections supporting the following academic areas: Earth Sciences, Geophysics, Petroleum Engineering, and Earth Systems. The Librarian works closely with faculty and advanced students to facilitate research and encourages the use of Stanford's rich holdings of subject materials through collection development activities, advanced reference help, and bibliographic instruction.

The Librarian is a member of the Science and Engineering Resource Group and participates actively in the Group's programs. The Librarian reports to the Head of Branner Earth Sciences Library and Map Collections, but also maintains effective working connections with many other units. The ability to work flexibly and personably with a wide range of colleagues and to negotiate skillfully a complex academic environment is indispensable.

The position requires demonstrated subject interest; desire to work in a research library; and a master's degree from an ALA-accredited library and information science school or the equivalent in training and experience.

Preference will be given applications received by October 15, 2004.

Full position description, including detailed responsibilities, qualifications, compensation and benefits, as well as the electronic procedures to apply are available at: http://jobs.stanford.edu/openings/display.cgi?Job_Req=006144&JFam=NIL&JOBCODE=1592
http://jobs.stanford.edu/openings/display.cgi?Job_Req=006144&Jfam=NIL&JOBCODE=<http://jobs.stanford.edu/openings/display.cgi?Job_Req=006144&JFam=NIL&JOBCODE=15921592

Applications through the regular mail are also welcome and can be sent to the address below. (Note that you must also apply using the online form even when sending an application through the mail.)

Carol Olsen
Director of Human Resources
Stanford University Libraries
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305-3090

Julie Sweetkind-Singer
Head Librarian; GIS and Map Librarian
Branner Earth Sciences Library and Map Collections
397 Panama Mall, M/C 2211
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305
sweetkind@stanford.edu
Phone: 650-725-1102

Library Manager, Gemological Institute of America, Carlsbad, CA

Reports To: Director, Library and Information Center

Primary Functions: Manages and oversees the daily operation of the Library and Library staff, including the facilities, infrastructure, operational planning, reference services, and budget of the department.

Responsibilities:

- Manages the general Library operation and 8 full-time staff including: reference services, cataloging, acquisition, serials, interlibrary loan, fileroom, archiving, outreach, knowledge management, and database management.
- Works with the Library Director in the planning, summation, prioritizing, and funding of the Library departmental budget as well as developing and implementing library procedures.
- Works directly with the Facilities department in supporting the current operation, and in the planning of Library space and infrastructure.
- Reviews and expands library resources and collection, in both print and electronic formats.
- Functions as Project Manager of new initiatives developed and originated by the Library.
- Provides reference services and interprets gemological and jewelry information to a diverse population through effective telephone, in-person and electronic mail communications.

Requirements:

- Master's degree (M.A., M.S. or M.L.I.S.) or equivalent in Library Science or Information Science, required; or four to ten years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience in a library environment, required.
- Undergraduate degree in science and knowledge of geology, gemology and jewelry preferred.
- Graduate Gemologist diploma and/or a willingness to obtain required.
- Proven ability to effectively manage a staff, preferably in a library setting; providing leadership, guidance, and conflict resolution.
- Previous experience managing projects and budgets, including the planning and presentation of budgets.
- Experience using computers in Online Public Access Catalog, online searches, electronic journal databases, relational databases, and spreadsheets.
- Experience using Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, Access, PowerPoint) and general office equipment.

If you are interested in this position, please attach your resume to an email and submit to <mailto:%20recruiter@gia.edu>.

MAP/GIS Librarian, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, OR

The University of Oregon Libraries seeks an enthusiastic, creative, and user-oriented colleague for the position

of the David and Nancy Petrone MAP/GIS Librarian. The incumbent in this endowed position will manage the Libraries' Map and Aerial Photography (MAP) Collection, lead its geographic information system (GIS) program, and participate in a wide range of services and professional responsibilities in a dynamic environment. The MAP Collection, with 400,000 maps, 500,000 air photos, and numerous GIS datasets, has one of the largest collections of geographic resources in the country and is used heavily by researchers on campus and within the Pacific Northwest. Special areas of strength include maps of the western U.S., Americas and Europe, aerial photography of Oregon from 1929 to the present, and 4,000 atlases and reference books.

Responsibilities: This position has primary responsibility for the Library's Map and Aerial Photography Collection, and for implementation of the Library's GIS program. The GIS program consists of data collection and dissemination, development of the Library's GIS website, collaboration in campus-wide GIS activities, and relevant user education services. As subject specialist in the fields of Geography and Cartography, this position is responsible for developing the collections in those fields, and for liaison with the university's Geography Department. This position reports to the Head of the Document Center, and participates in providing reference service in that department's areas of coverage: maps and air photos, government information, and business information. Library faculty members develop curricula and teach credit courses and non-credit workshops in their areas of expertise and for general library instruction. The position supervises 1.0 FTE support staff member and various student employees.

Qualifications: *Required:* ALA-accredited MLIS degree or relevant master's degree; knowledge of map librarianship; knowledge of GIS services and experience with GIS software such as ArcView; high degree of computer literacy and interest in new technologies and their applications in academic libraries; excellent communication skills and potential to excel as an instructor. *Preferred:* degree in a discipline that emphasizes spatial data, such as geography, earth sciences, or land use planning; demonstrated professional development activity; previous supervisory or lead work experience.

Salary and Benefits: \$34,000 minimum depending on prior experience, education, and/or rank. Benefits include family and domestic partners medical/dental plans (Blue Shield/Blue Cross). Retirement is fully paid by the state. No state sales tax. Vacation is accrued at the rate of 15 hours per month, sick leave at 8 hours per month. Low staff tuition rates are available for employees and family members for continuing education throughout the Oregon University System.

Librarians hold academic faculty status with rank, but are non-tenured. Professional growth and service in keeping with university and library standards for promotion and retention is expected.

Application Deadline: Applications received by 5:00 p.m., October 15, 2004, will receive priority consideration.

To Apply: Electronic applications (in the form of Word documents) are strongly encouraged, but should be followed by a hard copy with signatures. Send cover letter, resume, and names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of four references to: Ms. Laine Stambaugh, Director, Library Human Resources, 1299 University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, OR 97403-1299. (541) 346-1895 (voice); (541) 346-3485 (fax); lastamba@darkwing.uoregon.edu.

For more information, see: <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/admnpers/mapgis04.html>.

The University of Oregon is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity/ADA-compliant institution strongly committed to cultural diversity.

NEW PUBLICATION

Geo-Environment: Monitoring, Simulation and Remediation of the Geological Environment, is now available from WIT Press (see <http://www.witpressusa.com/acatalog/723X.html>). The volume was edited by J. F. Martin-Duque, Complutense University, Spain, C.A. Brebbia, Wessex Institute of Technology, UK, A. E. Godfrey, USDA Forest Service, Usa and J. R. Diaz De Teran, University of Cantabria, Spain. It includes the edited papers presented at the "Geo-Environment 2004" conference, organized by the Wessex Institute of Technology, UK, Department of Geodynamics, Complutense University, Spain, and others, held 5-7 July 2004, in Segovia, Spain. List price is \$141.00; ISBN: 1-85312-723-X

ANNOUNCEMENT

4th International Gemological Symposium to be held August 27-29, 2006 in San Diego

You are invited to attend, and participate in, the first GIA Gemological Research Conference, to be held August 26-27, 2006.

Held in conjunction with GIA's Fourth International Gemological Symposium, this two-day conference will feature presentations on gemology's most critical technical issues and latest advances. Abstracts will be considered for presentations in oral or poster format.

Conference topics will include:

- Geology of gem deposits
- New gem occurrences
- Gem characterization techniques
- Diamond and corundum treatments
- Laboratory growth of gem materials
- General gemology (including pearls)

A one-day field trip to the world-famous Pala pegmatite district in San Diego County will precede the conference. Space is limited.

GSIS PUBLICATIONS LIST

Proceedings of the Annual GSIS Meetings (ISSN 0072-1409) \$45.00 each; standing orders are \$45.00/year. (Proceedings volumes 1 through 25 are out of print and available from: Out-of-print Books on Demand, University Microfilms, Inc., 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.)

- v. 33, 2002 *New Heights in Geoscience Information: Access and Technology*, ed. by L. G. Dunn. (ISBN 0-934485-35-0)
- v. 32, 2001 *Geoscience Information: A Dynamic Odyssey*, ed. by M. M. Noga. (ISBN 0-934485-34-8)
- v. 31, 2000 *Electronic Information Summit: New Developments and their Impacts*, ed. by S. N. Tahirkheli. (ISBN 0-934485-33-X)
- v. 30, 2000 *Communication Divides: Perspectives on Supporting Information Bridges in the Geosciences*, ed. by Lois Heiser, (ISBN 0-934485-32-1)
- v. 29, 1999 *Accreting the Continent's Collections*, ed. by C. R. M. Derksen and C. J. Manson, (ISBN 0-934485-31-3)
- v. 28, 1998 *The Costs and Values of Geoscience Information*, ed. by C. J. Manson. (ISBN 0-934485-29-1)
- v. 27, 1997 *Expanding Boundaries: Geoscience Information for Earth System Science*, ed. by B. J. DeFelice. (ISBN 0-934485-23-2)
- v. 26, 1996 *Crossing the Bridge to the Future: Managing Geoscience Information in the Next Decade*, ed. by N. L. Blair. (ISBN 0-934485-26-7)

Proceedings of the International Geoscience Information Conferences

- 6th, 1998 *Science Editing and Information Management*, Proceedings of the Second International AESE/CBE/EASE Joint Meeting, Sixth International Conference on Geoscience Information, and Thirty-second Annual Meeting, Association of Earth Science Editors, ed. by C. J. Manson. (ISBN 0-934485-30-5) \$ 25.00
- 5th, 1994 *Geoinfo V, Proceedings of the 5th International Conference on Geoscience Information*, ed. by Jiri Hruska. (ISBN 0-934485-27-5) \$ 45.00 (2 vols.)

Directory of Geoscience Libraries, North America. 5th Edition, 1997. (ISBN 0-934485-25-9) Paper. \$ 35.00

GSIS Newsletter (ISSN 0046-5801) published bi-monthly; calendar year subscriptions only. United States and Canada \$ 40.00; other countries (via airmail) \$ 45.00

Mailing labels: Geoscience Information Society member mailing labels: Single use labels \$ 100.00.

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